

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 /062 W
-----200254Z 092650 /12

R 191818Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4887

UNCLAS LIMA 4114

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PE

SUBJ: WEEKLY MAGAZINE PORTEST ABOUT SHLAUDEMAN APPOINTMENT

REF: LIMA 3995

1. THE LIMA WEEKLY POLITICAL COMMENTARY MAGAZINE "EQUIS-X", WHOSE DIRECTOR ISMAEL FRIAS, WHILE ANTI-COMMUNIST, IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PERUVIAN REVOLUTION'S "FIRST PHASE", HAS A MAY 18 ARTICLE ATTACKING THE APPOINTMENT OF HARRY SHLAUDEMAN AS AMBASADOR TO PERU.

2. THE ARTICLE ENTITLED "PERSONA NON GRATA?" READS IN INFORMAL TRANSLATION:

"IN THE LAST FEW DAYS IT WAS LEARNED FROM AN UNIMPEACHABLE SOURCE THAT THE NEW AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES IN PERU WOULD BE THE CAREER DIPLOMAT HARRY SHLAUDEMAN (MISSPELLED THROUGHOUT THE ARTICLE AS SLAUDEMAN). THE NORTH AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION HAD, IN FACT, ALREADY OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED SHLAUDEMAN FOR HIS NEW POST IN LIMA.

"THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES, CONSULTED BY 'EQUIS-X', DID NOT DENY THE STORY. THERE WAS RATHER AN UNEQUIVOCAL CONFIRMATION, SINCE THE EMPLOYEE WHO REPLIED TO US HASTENED TO CLARIFY: 'YES, YES, BUT THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET GIVEN ITS
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AGREEMENT" (MISUSED THROUGHOUT THE ARTICLE).

"THIS RESPONSE IN EFFECT DENIED A RUMOR THAT WAS CIRCULATING IN LIMA, ACCORDING TO WHICH OUR GOVERNMENT HAD IN FACT ACCEPTED OR GIVEN 'AGREEMENT' TO SHLAUDEMAN AS THE NEW NORTH AMERICAN AMBASADOR IN PERU.

"IT IS KNOWN THAT THIS UNITED STATES OFFICIAL HAS A DISTURBING REPUTATION AS A DESTABILIZER OF GOVERNMENTS. AND MANY COINCIDENCES MAKE IT POSSIBLE EASILY TO CONNECT HIM WITH THE SINISTER CIA.

"SHLAUDEMANN WAS POSTED TO IRAN IN 1952 WHEN THE CIA CONTRIVED, AS IN PROVEN, THE VIOLENT OVERTHROW OF PRIME MINISTER MOSSADEGH, AS CONVENIENT FOR THE INTERESTS OF THE GREAT POWER, THE UNITED STATES, AT THAT TIME.

"FROM IRAN OUR MAN WENT, STILL AS A DIPLOMAT, TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. THAT WAS IN 1964, THE YEAR IN WHICH THE 'MARINES' LANDED IN SANTO DOMINGO TO IMPEDE THE RETURN TO POWER OF THE LEGITIMATE PRESIDENT, JUAN BOSCH, AS A RESULT OF A TRIUMPHANT POPULAR INSURRECTION, IN WHICH PART OF THE ARMY, HEADED BY COLONEL FRANCISCO CAMANO (SIC.), JOINED.

"FINALLY, IN 1973 SHLAUDEMANN IS IN SANTIAGO. IT IS THE YEAR IN WHICH SALVADOR ALLENDE FALLS. AND NOW IT IS KNOWN THAT THE CIA PARTICIPATED IN A DECISIVE WAY IN THE CONSPIRACIES PREVIOUS TO THE FASCIST COUP.

"WITH THIS RECORD SHLAUDEMANN'S DESCREDIT WAS OF SUCH MAGNITUDE THAT IN VENEZUELA THERE WAS GREAT RESISTANCE TO ACCEPTING HIM AS AMBASSADOR NOT LONG AGO. IN VENEZUELAN POLITICAL CIRCLES IT WAS SAID AT THE TIME THAT THE PRESENCE OF SHLAUDEMANN WOULD BE CONSIDERED AN AFFRONT.

"THEREFORE WE ARE SURE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF OUR COUNTRY WILL NOT GIVE 'AGREEMENT' TO SHLAUDEMANN EITHER. THAT HAS NO REASON UNCLASSIFIED

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TO BE TAKEN AS AN UNFRIENDLY ATTITUDE, FAR FROM IT, TOWARD THE UNITED STATES.

"FOR THE PRESENT, HERE AT 'EQUIS-X', WE SUPPORT THE NORTH AMERICAN-STYLE LIBERAL SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC POSITION OF PRESIDENT CARTER. WE JOIN IN HIS INFLEXIBLE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. BUT BECAUSE OF THAT WE CONSIDER THE DESIGNATION FOR A PROUD COUNTRY LIKE PERU OF AN AMBASSADOR WITH THE 'CURRICULUM' OF SHLAUDEMANN TO BE CONTRARY TO THE NEW IMAGE OF THE UNITED STATES. THERE MUST HAVE BEEN AN ERROR. AND IT MUST BE CORRECTED."

3. THE ARTICLE IS ACCOMPANIED BY A PHOTO OF THE EMBASSY CAPTIONED "THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES: WE ARE FRIENDS OF CARTER, BUT WE WANT NOTHING TO DO WITH SHLAUDEMANN".

4. COMMENT: A) AMONG THE INACCURACIES IN THE ARTICLE IS THE INDICATION THAT AN EMBASSY EMPLOYEE CONFIRMED AMBASSADOR SHLAUDEMANN'S APPOINTMENT BEFORE THE GOP HAD GRANTED AGREEMENT.

B) "EQUIS-X" IS WIDELY READ AMONG THE POLITIWCALLY-CONSCIOUS
URBAN POPULATION (CIRCULATION OVER 30,000). THIS ARTICLE IS
THEREFORE POTENTIALLY MORE TROUBLESOME THAN THE ONE IT RESEMBLES
AND EMBROIDERS UPON THAT APPEARED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE
MOSCOW-LINE COMMUNIST WEEKLY "UNIDAD" (REFTEL). WE WOULD EXPECT
THE COMPARATIVELY RADICAL POLITICAL WEEKLY "OIGA" TO RUN A SIMILAR
ARTICLE IN AN EARLY ISSUE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GOVERNMENT-
CONTROLLED PRESS HAS CARRIED ONLY AMERICAN WIRE SERVICE REPORTS OF
THE APPOINTMENT IN A POSITIVE WAY AND WILL PRESUMABLY LEAVE THIS
STORY ALONE OTHERWISE, EXCEPT POSSIBLY TO DENY PARTS OF IT.
THE TEMPEST MAY BLOW ITSELF OUT IN ITS TEAPOT IF THE GOVERNMENT
CHOOSES TO WARN OFF "EQUIS-X" AND "OIGA" OR IF THEY SEE NO
CIRCULATION MILEAGE IN A CONTINUING SERIES OF PROTESTS AGAINST
THE SHLAUDEMAN APPOINTMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, COMMUNIST DOCTRINE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LIMA04114
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770179-0793
Format: TEL
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770540/aaaabieq.tel
Line Count: 130
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 913a5e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LIMA 3995
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2456533
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEEKLY MAGAZINE PORTEST ABOUT SHLAUDEMAN APPOINTMENT
TAGS: PFOR, PE, (SHLAUDEMAN, HARRY W)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/913a5e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009